

U.S. Census Bureau: Community Resilience Estimates

Presented by Chase Sawyer

Discussants

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CLARIFICATIONS

1. It would be helpful to further clarify graphics which demonstrate CREs by geographical locations.
2. The use of ACS and bicentennial data in developing CREs is described in the presentation. Clarify how the following data sources are used/not used/modified for purposes of CREs.

SAIBE

SAHIE

SoVI

NHIS

SAIPE

SAHIE

Social Vulnerability Index (SVI)

1. In developing CREs, to what extent were SVI variables and methodologies used for data and modeling? Were any of the SVI variables considered/weighted differently to arrive at the CREs?

2. As noted in the presentation SVI has several limitations listed below. Were these limitations accounted for in developing CREs?

- Specific formulation varies over time and application
- Appropriate measurement error missing
- Unstable low-level estimates, especially for small places
- Rankings are not statistically tested for differences
- Timeliness

Discussion Items

1. NIHS health factors considers age, sex, ethnicity, and regions. Are any of these factors available for other data sources and were they considered in developing CREs?
2. Moving forward, would it be possible to gauge recovery as noted in the Quick Guide/Overview document? If so, please provide information.
3. Have CREs been used in actual or hypothetical scenarios to validate or examine its utility in developing guidelines for “distribution or resources” both tangible and nontangible resources? Have the CRE estimates been tested “to ensure equitable distribution”?
4. Prior to CREs for Covid -19 initiative has the Bureau used other measure/Index to allocate resources for impacted areas?

Discussion Items

1. How will the CRE assessment or tool be linked to the Bureau's priority of action? We would be interested in seeing how these data will develop into concrete activities that not only relate to government-related actions (global framework) to that of a mezzo level (systemic approach).
2. Regarding additional iterations, will the Bureau identify, assess, and monitor risks? Will this cause for a whole new tool in assessing CRE? Again, outcomes from a global to something that can be drilled down.

Next Steps - UPDATES

1. Are there any enhancements planned for 2021 release? Is there any process timeline to address the limitations noted in the presentation?
2. Is there a time frame for the public and community agencies to access these data?
3. Stake holder engagement is an important and essential element in developing CREs. NAC strongly recommends setting up a working group or a subcommittee.

Recommendations

1. At an appropriate time, it would be useful to seek stake holder engagement. Perhaps, setting up a NAC subcommittee would be an initial step to develop the process for this purpose.
2. If possible, develop a time frame for the public and community agencies to access relevant data and information.
3. As research develops and Census Bureau acquires additional data and experience in working with CREs, consider additional factors/measure which may predict resilience?
4. It would be extremely useful to examine CREs utility in developing guidelines for “distribution or resources” for both tangible and nontangible resources?

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

THANK YOU TO CHASE AND HIS TEAM